

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and method for mechanically supporting and electrically coupling arc tubes in high intensity discharge (“HID”) lamps such as metal halide lamps. The system and method provides mechanical support and electrical coupling of the arc tube in HID lamps with few or no welds and is particularly suited for HID lamps having relatively large arc tubes, e.g. lamps having wattages greater than about 150 watts or other wattage lamps having a heat reflector mounted near the base of the lamp.